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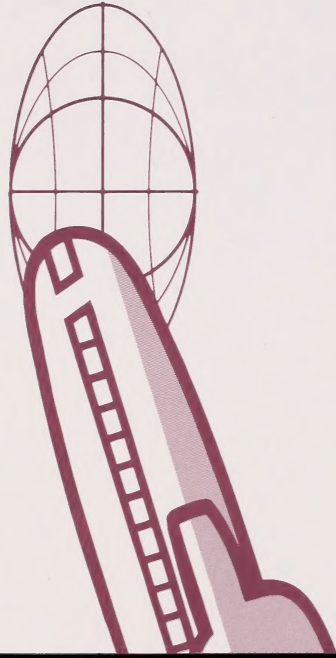
JUL 18 '78



**INTERNATIONAL  
AIR  
TRAVELERS  
--AND THE THREAT OF  
FOOT-AND-MOUTH  
DISEASE**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH  
INSPECTION SERVICE

PROGRAM AID NO. 1213



The U.S. livestock industry is among the most productive in the world—largely because it is free of many animal diseases which exist elsewhere. The U.S. Department of Agriculture is working to keep costly exotic diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease out of the United States. And travelers can help.

International air travelers could inadvertently introduce foot-and-mouth disease—either through meat or other animal products they bring with them or on contaminated boots or clothing. The virus of foot-and-mouth disease can survive for as long as 7 days in human hair; it can live for a prolonged time on clothing or shoes.

If introduced here, foot-and-mouth disease could cost the U.S. livestock industry \$10 billion in direct and indirect costs the first year. The effect on meat and milk supplies and prices for consumers would be catastrophic!

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Therefore, agricultural inspectors at ports of entry are briefing the travelers on how to deal with the disease risk. If shoes or boots appear contaminated with dirt, mud, or manure—which could contain foot-and-mouth disease virus—the traveler will be asked to thoroughly clean them. Then they will be wiped with a cloth containing disinfectant or the traveler will walk through a footbath containing disinfectant.

As an added precaution, when a traveler gets home—and before contact with any farm or zoo animals—he should (1) clean nails and wash hair thoroughly and (2) wash or dryclean any contaminated garments.

Most of the world is infected with foot-and-mouth disease. Currently, the only areas considered to be *free* of this costly and debilitating disease are:

**All of:**

Australia

Central America (including  
Panama)

North America

**Parts of:** The Caribbean (Bahama,

Barbados, Bermuda,

Dominican Republic, Haiti,

Jamaica, and Trinidad and  
Tobago)

Europe (Finland, Greenland,  
Iceland, Ireland, Norway,  
Sweden, and the United  
Kingdom)

The Pacific (Fiji, Japan, New  
Zealand, and the U.S.

Territories in the Pacific)





FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE



COUNTRIES FREE OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE